

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1067

By Pody

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Chuck Groover on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Chuck Groover is one such stalwart servant of the Lord, who recently stepped down from his position as pastor of Victory Baptist Church in Mt. Juliet after twenty-one years of service; during his tenure, he preached thousands of sermons, officiated more than 300 funerals, united more than 100 couples in marriage, and provided a peaceful presence to Mt. Juliet; and

WHEREAS, saved at the age of nine, Mr. Groover has spent most of his life in service to the Lord; he graduated from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with a degree in religious education in February 1979, but instead of continuing in ministry, he enrolled in pre-law education at a college in Florida with plans to pursue a career as a lawyer; and

WHEREAS, while studying law, Mr. Groover worked at a local church and actively served in youth work and children's ministry; the Lord began to reveal to him his natural gift for ministry, and, in surrender to the Lord's will, he obtained a master's degree in divinity in 1981; and

WHEREAS, a Florida native, Mr. Groover was working for a ministry in his home state when his wife received an offer of employment at the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville in 1993; in 1994, he accepted a position at Hobson Pike Baptist Church in Mt. Juliet, and he began his tenure at Green Hill Baptist Church in June 2000; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, Victory Baptist Church was formed as an offshoot of Green Hill by some of its former congregants, and, in 2001, Mr. Groover was named pastor; during his tenure

as pastor, the congregation grew from seventy members to 1,200 members, and the church moved into a new building on Tate Lane; and

WHEREAS, some of the highlights of Mr. Groover's career include the joining of the Green Hill Choir and the Victory Choir for a concert, the rallying of the members in the aftermath of the 2020 tornado, and the development of Everyone's Wilson; and

WHEREAS, he is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of forty-two years, Syble, whom he met while the two were students at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and married in July 1979; the couple has two adult children, Jamie and Kelley; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable and devout career as a pastor, Chuck Groover has evinced the utmost spirituality, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of his congregation; and

WHEREAS, we are delighted to recognize this committed Christian leader for his service to his community and the congregation of Victory Baptist Church in Mt. Juliet; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Chuck Groover our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement after twenty-one years of ministry with Victory Baptist Church.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.